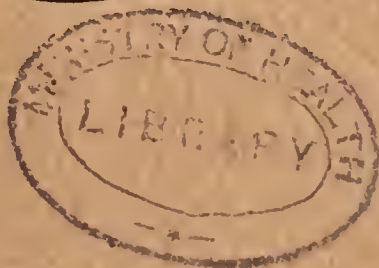


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Annual Report

ON THE HEALTH OF THE

Ormskirk Urban District

DURING THE YEAR

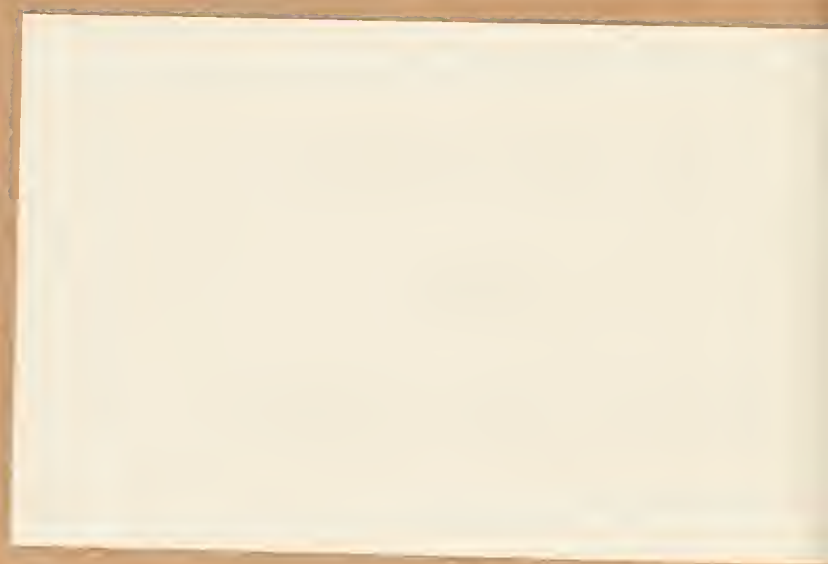
1953.

By

J. GORDON HAILWOOD, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S.,

L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Annual Report

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Medical Officer of Health.

Ormskirk Urban District Council

Chairman COUNCILLOR R. H. TAYLOR, J.P.
Vice-Chairman COUNCILLOR T. T. TRUSCOTT.

Health and Hospital Committee

Chairman COUNCILLOR JOHN PRESCOTT, J.P.
Vice-Chairman COUNCILLOR H. E. BALLANCE.

COUNCILLOR L. C. BENNETT.
 T. G. CLAYTON.
 F. V. FURNIVALL.
 H. G. HUGHES.
 S. C. JONES.
 A. P. LEA.
 K. LEWIS.
 E. PICKLES.
 R. ROTHWELL.
 D. C. M. SCOTT.

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health :

J. G. HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors :

NORMAN W. CHADWICK, M.R.San.I.
WILLIAM HIGGINS, A.R.San.I.

Clerical Assistant :

MRS. J. FINCH.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my 8th Annual Report on the health of the Ormskirk Urban District.

The district remained healthy during the year 1953, although there was an increase in the number of infectious diseases notified. This was mainly due to an outbreak of Measles during May and June and Whooping Cough in November. The number of notifications of other infectious diseases remained low.

The birth rate showed an increase to 13.8 per 1,000 population, compared with 12.7 in 1952, although the rate still remains lower than that for England and Wales, which stands at 15.5. There was a further decrease, however, in the death rate from 11.5 in 1952 to 10.9 per 1,000 population. The infantile death rate continues to decrease and now stands at 34 per 1,000 live births compared with 41 last year. This continued decrease, which is in line with the decrease which has gone on throughout the country in the last 10 years, is extremely satisfactory, since the infantile death rate is looked upon as an indication of the health and welfare of the community as a whole. No maternal deaths occurred during the year compared with 2 in 1952.

The progress in the erection of Council houses continued during the year, so that much has been done to relieve the housing difficulties in Ormskirk. Over 500 Council houses have been built since the war, and the Council now own a total of 814 houses. Little has been done, however, in the way of demolishing poor property, and this must be the next step in the housing programme of any progressive Authority. It is hoped to make a start on slum clearance during 1954, and I hope that the programme of slum clearance will be stepped up each year in the future. There is no doubt in my mind that further improvements in the health

of the community can only be obtained by further improvement in living conditions. I look forward to the day when every family in Ormskirk is provided with a main water supply, adequate cooking facilities and a bathroom, with hot and cold running water.

The work of the Sanitary Inspectors has continued on a high standard during the year. 1,191 premises were visited during the year, and 409 defects or nuisances discovered, of which 388 were abated.

In conclusion, I would express my thanks to the Health Committee for their support and encouragement during the year, and to the members of the staff for their assistance at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. G. HAILWOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report for 1953

—:0:—

SECTION 1.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area. 15,608 acres.

Population.—The population according to the 1951 Census was 20,554, but the Registrar General estimates that at the middle of 1953 the population was 21,230, on which figure statistics in this Report are based.

Number of Inhabited Houses. At the end of 1953 the number of inhabited houses, according to the Rate Books was 6,076.

The Rateable Value at the end of the year was £128,897 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £505.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District of Ormskirk occupies 15,608 acres of the West Lancashire plain. The ancient town of Ormskirk is situated on the highest ground in the area, and the village of Newburgh is pleasantly sited on a small hill, otherwise the district is flat or gently undulating.

Three-quarters of the district is rural in character. The chief interest of the population is agriculture or allied employment ; indeed, Ormskirk is locally known as the capital of this large agricultural area, and the ruling prices at the weekly market are quoted all over the country.

Burscough is a small town 3 miles north of Ormskirk, and has a large permanent Army Ordnance Depot. Apart from agriculture, the chief industries include a brass foundry, an ironfoundry, 2 timber yards, a printing and bookbinding works, a flour mill, an oatmeal mill, three brickworks, and factories for the manufacture of cakes and biscuits, wooden handles, neckwear, sausages, fertiliser and automobile oils.

Transport facilities are good. The main L.M.S. line from Liverpool to Scotland crosses the Southport-Manchester line at right angles in the centre of the district, and there are six railway stations in the area. Road transport services are good ; and there is also the Leeds and Liverpool Canal for the carriage of heavy merchandise.

Since 1931 the Urban District has included, in addition to Ormskirk, the townships of Lathom and Burscough, parts of Aughton, Bickerstaffe and Scarisbrick, and the hamlets of Newburgh and Westhead.

There was little progress or development of a civil nature during the War years, and as a result of the enforced inactivity in the building of houses during that period the cessation of hostilities saw an acute shortage of dwelling houses. During the following years many families were forced to live in lodgings or rooms and there was an increase in overcrowding.

This shortage of houses is still the chief difficulty from which the population suffers.

Good progress has been made by the Council in their efforts to provide houses and since the end of the war over 500 houses have been built by them, in addition to which 127 houses have been built by other authorities and by private enterprise.

The number of houses erected in 1953 was 80 by the Council and 29 by private enterprise.

VITAL STATISTICS.

				1953	1952
Home population—(Estimated by Registrar-General—mid year)				21,230	21,180
Live Births—Legitimate	M.	F.	}	Total	
Illegitimate	143	140			
	6	4		293	268
Birth Rate per 1000 population				13.8	12.7
Stillbirths	M.	F.	}	Total	
	3	4			
				7	6
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births				23	22
Deaths.	Males	Females	}	Total	
	120	117			
				237	248
Death Rate per 1000 population					
		Crude		11.2	11.7
		Adjusted		10.9	11.5
Maternal Mortality					
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion				Nil.	2
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births				Nil.	7.3
Infant Mortality					
Infants under 1 year—death rate per 1000 live births				34	41
Neo-natal Mortality					
Infants under four weeks of age—death rate per 1000 live births				31	30

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal	
									No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1953	293	* 13.8	237	* 11.2	7	23	nil	nil	10	34	9	31
1952	268	12.7	248	11.7	6	22	2	7.30	11	41	8	30
1951	314	15.0	325	15.5	7	22	nil	nil	18	57	10	32
1950	291	14.5	268	13.3	5	17	nil	nil	8	27	4	14
1949	298	14.8	235	11.7	12	39	1	3.23	14	47	—	—
1948	345	17.2	234	11.6	8	22	1	2.83	19	55	—	—
Avg. 5 years— 1948-1952	—	14.8	—	12.8	—	24	—	2.67	—	46	—	—

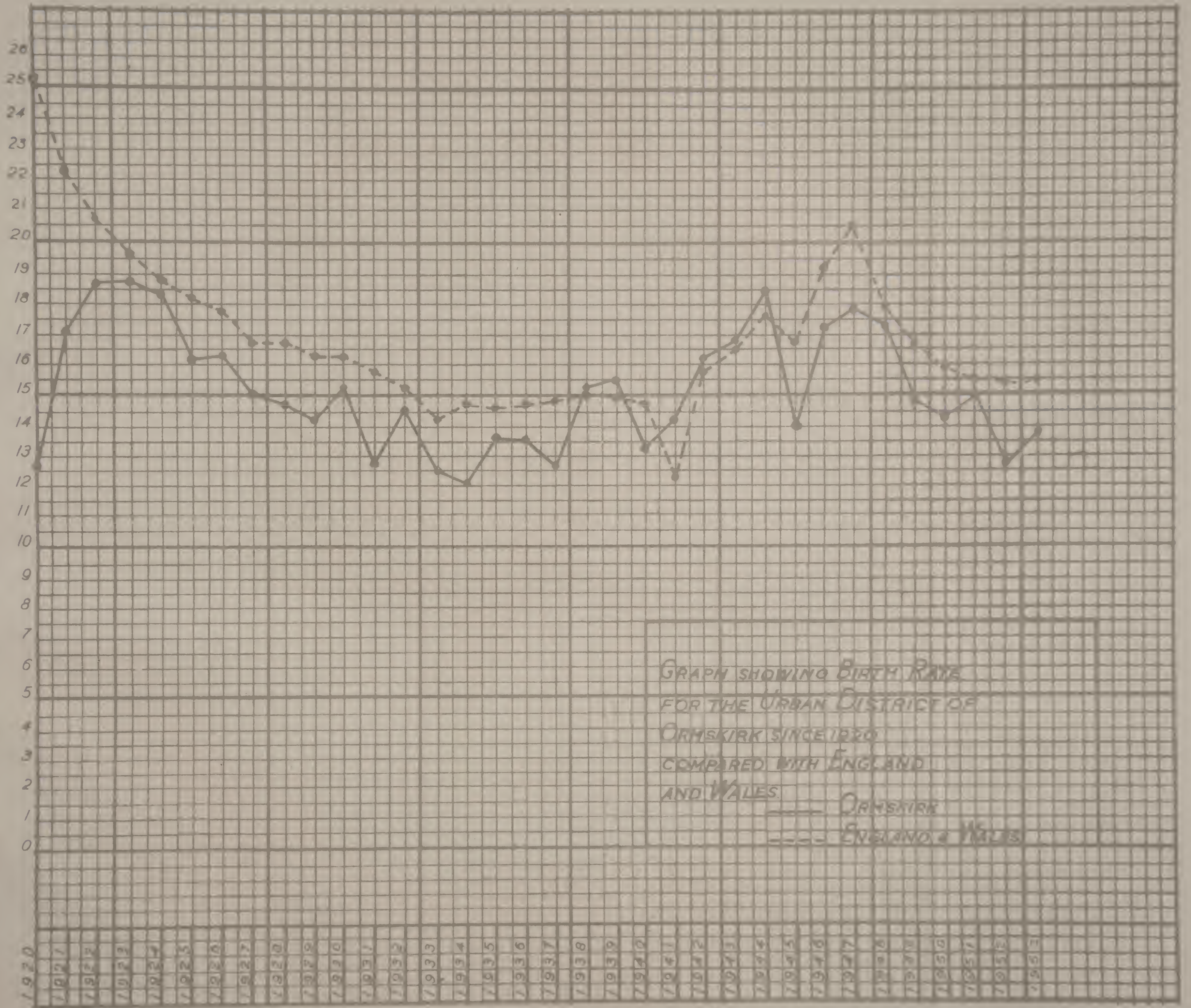
* Adjusted (live birth-rate) (comparability factor, 1.00) = 13.8 per 1,000.
(death-rate) comparability factor, 0.98) = 10.9 per 1,000.

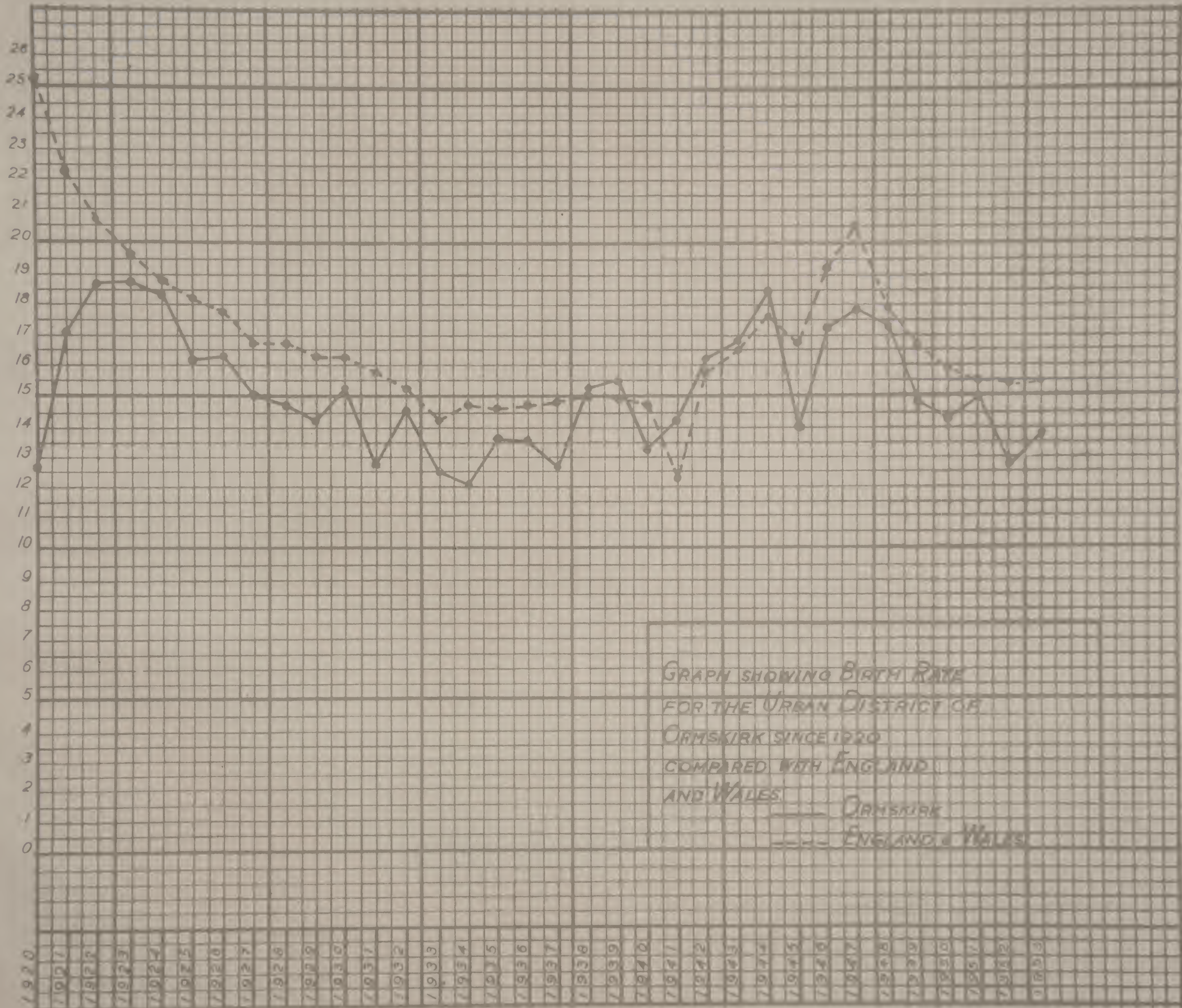
The Birth rate for England and Wales was 15.5, for Ormskirk 13.8.

The Death rate for England and Wales was 11.4, for Ormskirk 10.9.

The Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales was 26.8, for Ormskirk 34.

The Maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.76, for Ormskirk nil.



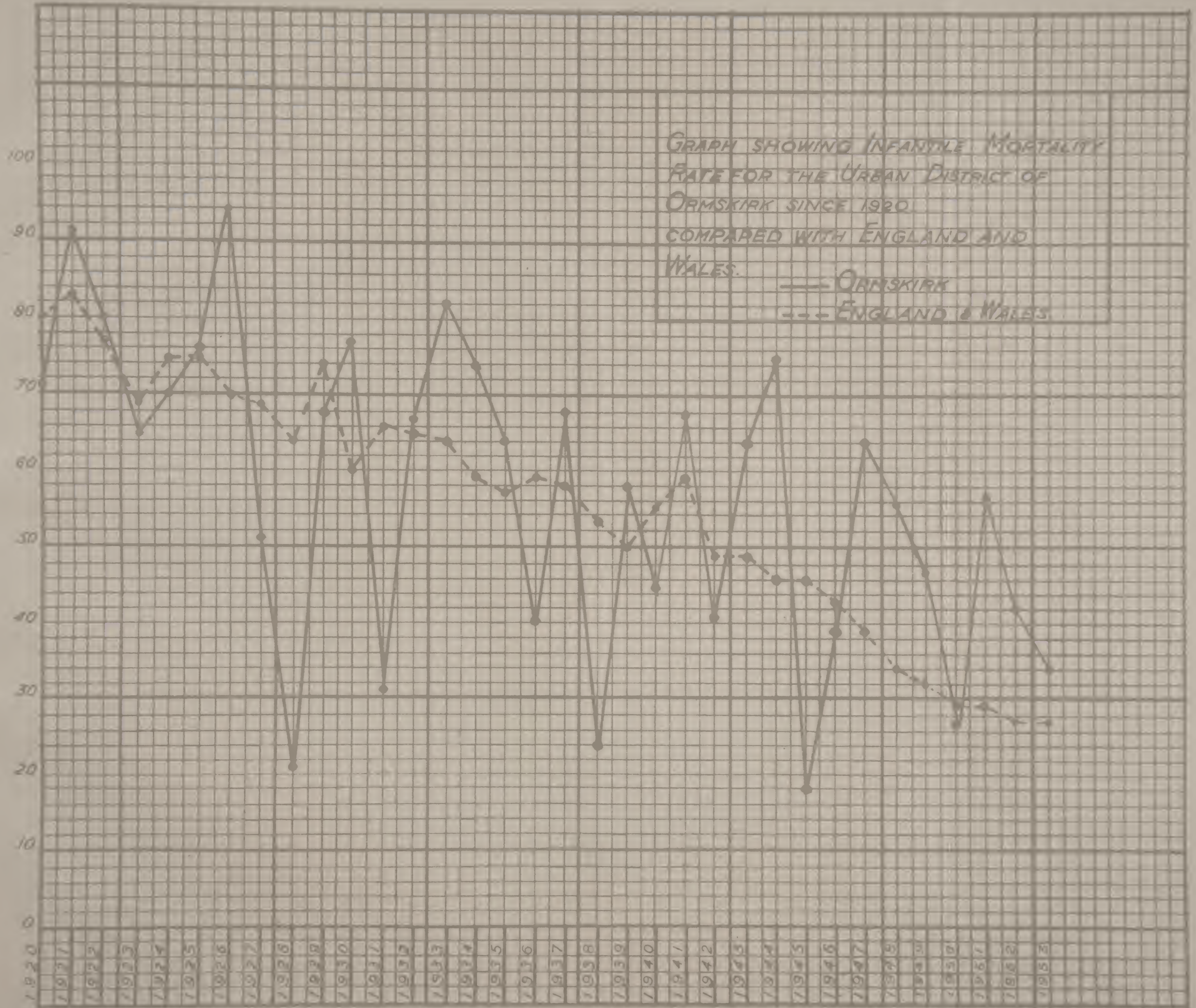


GRAPH SHOWING BIRTH RATE
 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF
 ORMSKIRK SINCE 1920
 COMPARED WITH ENGLAND
 AND WALES.

—•— ORMSKIRK
 - - - ENGLAND & WALES

GRAPH SHOWING INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ORMSKIRK SINCE 1920 COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES.

— ORMSKIRK
 - - - ENGLAND & WALES



CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ORMSKIRK
URBAN DISTRICT.

	1953		Total	1952 Total	1951 Total
	M.	F.			
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	2	1	3	2	7
Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—	—	1	—
Syphilitic Disease	1	1	2	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—
Meningoccal Infections	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm—stomach	2	4	6	7	10
Malignant Neoplasm—lung, Bronchus	2	1	3	13	9
Malignant Neoplasm—breast	—	2	2	5	4
Malignant Neoplasm—uterus	—	—	—	3	3
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	14	19	28	21
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	2	2	—	—
Diabetes	1	—	1	4	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	20	42	38	37
Coronary disease, angina	19	7	26	24	30
Hypertension with heart disease	8	11	19	8	20
Other heart disease	16	17	33	43	63
Other circulatory disease	3	5	8	6	9
Influenza	—	—	—	—	19
Pneumonia	4	1	5	12	10
Bronchitis	8	6	14	7	14
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	1	—	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	3	3	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	5	2	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	2	—
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	4	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	14	22	27	39
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3	2	6
All other accidents	4	4	8	2	4
Suicide	—	—	—	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—
All causes	120	117	237	248	325

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR ORMSKIRK (INCLUDING LATHOM AND BURSCOUGH).

Year	Estimated Population	Birth Rate		Death Rate		Infantile Mort. Rate	
		England & Wales	Ormskirk	England & Wales	Ormskirk	England & Wales	Ormskirk
1920	14,124	25.4	12.7	12.4	14.0	80	71
1921	15,230	22.4	17.1	12.1	11.7	83	91
1922	15,257	20.6	18.7	12.9	13.0	77	80
1923	15,244	19.7	18.9	11.6	12.2	69	65
1924	15,272	18.8	18.5	12.2	12.8	75	70
1925	15,338	18.3	16.2	12.2	13.4	75	76
1926	15,509	17.8	16.3	11.6	12.3	70	94
1927	15,725	16.7	15.0	12.3	12.5	69	51
1928	15,406	16.7	14.9	11.7	12.1	64	21
1929	15,313	16.3	14.2	13.4	14.0	74	68
1930	15,950	16.3	15.4	11.4	12.6	60	77
1931	17,200	15.8	12.8	12.3	12.2	66	31
1932	17,240	15.3	14.5	12.0	11.1	65	67
1933	17,410	14.4	12.5	12.3	13.4	64	82
1934	17,670	14.8	12.1	11.8	11.3	59	74
1935	17,860	14.7	13.8	11.7	12.7	57	64
1936	18,090	14.8	13.6	12.1	11.2	59	40
1937	18,300	14.9	12.6	12.4	11.5	58	68
1938	18,400	15.1	15.2	11.6	10.7	53	24
1939	18,930	15.0	15.5	12.1	12.8	50	58
1940	19,660	14.6	13.3	14.3	13.1	55	45
1941	20,490	12.2	14.3	12.9	12.0	59	68
1942	20,200	15.8	16.6	11.6	10.8	49	41
1943	19,250	16.5	16.9	12.1	12.2	46	64
1944	18,500	17.6	18.5	11.6	11.7	46	75
1945	19,320	16.1	14.0	11.4	10.8	46	18
1946	20,360	19.1	17.4	11.5	10.6	43	39
1947	20,990	20.5	17.8	12.0	13.4	41	64
1948	20,030	17.9	17.2	10.8	11.6	34	55
1949	20,100	16.7	14.8	11.7	11.5	32	47
1950	20,110	15.8	14.5	11.6	13.1	29.8	27
1951	20,920	15.5	15.0	12.5	15.2	29.6	57
1952	21,180	15.3	12.7	11.3	11.5	27.6	41
1953	21,230	15.5	13.8	11.4	10.9	26.8	34

NOTE.—The figures for the years 1920-1930 inclusive are calculated from records of the two Urban Districts of Ormskirk and Lathom and Burscough. They are approximately comparable to the figures for the new Urban District from 1931 onwards.

SECTION 2.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance services are provided by the Lancashire County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act 1946.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

Home nursing is carried out by the Lancashire County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act 1946.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

All hospitals were taken over by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and maintained by them from July, 1948.

The Ormskirk County Hospital now takes all types of cases and has a consultant and resident staff. The Ormskirk General Hospital accommodates chronic and convalescent cases only. Out Patient Sessions are held at both these hospitals.

The Ormskirk Infectious Diseases Hospital has been converted to a Children's Convalescent Hospital while cases of Infectious Disease from the Urban District of Ormskirk are now sent to the New Hall Isolation Hospital, Scarisbrick.

SECTION 3.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the area adjacent to the parishes of Scarisbrick, Aughton and Bickerstaffe, the Urban District is supplied from the Council's Waterworks undertakings, situated at Dark Lane and Greetby Hill.

The supply at Greetby Hill is obtained from the Bunter Rock in the New Red Sandstone, and that at Dark Lane from the Keuper and Bunter formations.

Both stations are equipped with electric plant operating vertical spindle centrifugal pumps with a combined capacity of over 100,000 gallons per hour.

The quality of water at the present time is of high organic purity and not particularly hard.

The daily supply of water in 1934 was 530,000 gallons, whilst the daily supply in 1953 was 820,000. This latter figure is, however, 25,000 gallons per day less than 1953, due to the facts that a brewery and the gasworks in the town ceased to take water, and that many agricultural properties are now on a metered supply, and probably more economy is exercised at such premises.

The bulk of the area being typically agricultural, it is unavoidable that certain isolated cottages and farms in the district still obtain their supplies from wells. The number of properties not on public supply only amounts to 0.5% of the houses in the area. During the year the following new watermains have been laid. Extensions to new housing Estates, 365 yards ; Hall Lane, 60 yards ; Spa Lane, 130 yards ; Beacon Lane, 810 yards.

ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLY.

29th September, 1953.

GREETBY HILL WORKS.

	Station No. 1	Station No. 2.
Analytical results expressed in parts per million :—		
Total solid matter in solution	372	286.4
Oxygen required to oxidise in—		
15 minutes	None	None.
4 hours	None.	None.
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	None.	None.
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	None.	None.
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	None.	None.
Nitric nitrogen as N.	4.7	9.4
Combined chlorine	39.5	32.5
Total hardness	230	144
pH value	6.3	5.9
Dissolved carbonic acid	88	57
Colour	None.	None.
Appearance	Clear.	Clear.
Smell	None.	None.
Suspended matter	None.	None.

The water organically is pure and quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

The water organically is pure and is quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

DARK LANE WORKS.

Analytical results expressed in parts per million :—

Total solid matter in solution	.....	.....	164
Oxygen required to oxidise in—	15 mins.		None.
	4 hours		None.
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	.....	.....	None.
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	.....	.....	None.
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	.....	.....	None.
Nitric nitrogen as N.	.....	.....	3.7
Combined chlorine	.....	.....	28.0
Total hardness	.....	.....	83
pH value	.....	.....	5.8
Dissolved carbonic acid	.....	.....	83
Colour	.....	.....	None.
Appearance	.....	.....	Clear.
Smell	.....	.....	None.
Suspended matter	.....	.....	None.

The water organically is pure and quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Council maintain three Sewage Disposal Works which deal with Ormskirk, Burscough and Westhead. The sewage is passed through sedimentation tanks and sludge drying beds, the surface effluent being treated by rotary filter and discharged into brooks.

The New Lane works was enlarged in 1943 in order to deal with increased flow due to the Royal Naval Air Station.

The dry weather flow at Ormskirk is 627,000 gallons per day.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF 1952.

Number of fresh water closets	.....	.....	5,300
,, pail closets	.....	.....	38
,, waste water closets	.....	.....	Nil
,, privies	.....	.....	734
,, privy middens	.....	.....	703
,, dry ashpits	.....	.....	Nil
,, dustbins	.....	.....	5,677

CANAL BOATS.

During the year two canal boats were inspected and their condition was found to be satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are now no common lodging houses in the district.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district. There are two privately-owned swimming baths but they are not open to the public.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year eight observations were taken and warnings were given in three cases. It was not found necessary to take any formal action.

A Byelaw made in pursuance of Section 2 of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, is in force and prescribes that the emission of black smoke for a period of two minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes from any one chimney in a building other than a private dwelling-house shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be a nuisance.

CAMPING SITES—MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no licensed camping sites in the area. Two agricultural camps were set up for short periods during the Summer. These were conducted in a satisfactory manner. One movable dwelling was licensed under the provisions of Sec. 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Four houses were found to be very slightly infested and these were fumigated with "Fumite" D.D.T. Generators. Owing to the very slight infestation it was not thought necessary to warrant the use of Hydrogen Cyanide.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

This service is carried out under a joint scheme by the West Lancashire Rural District Council on a percentage of costs basis.

Disinfection of bedding and clothing is by steam disinfection. During 1953 the following work was carried out :—

	Disinfection	Disinfestation
Journeys	14	1
Rooms sprayed	12	3
Houses	14	1
Articles taken for disinfection	56	-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The following visits in connection with Rodent Control were made during the year :—

Dwelling houses 1619 ; Business premises 332 ; Local authority properties 475 ; Sewers and Sewage Works 263.

A total of 362 new minor infestations were discovered and dealt with. The bait bases used were sausage rusk, bread rusk and oatmeal, and the poisons were zinc phosphide, arsenic and warfarin.

The half-yearly maintenance treatment of the sewers was carried out in March.

A test baiting of the manholes in the area was made in August and was followed in September by the half-yearly maintenance treatment. Treatment is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

SECTION 4. H O U S I N G.

There is still a definite shortage of houses in the district, especially of the three bedroom type.

At the end of the year the Council had schemes in progress for the erection of 58 houses on the Richmond Avenue, Burscough site and 64 houses on the Scott Estate, County Road site. Further schemes for the erection of 40 houses in Mill Lane, Burscough, are contemplated.

The general standard of housing can be classed as good. Many of the older houses are in need of repair and these are being dealt with as quickly as possible, but the high cost of repair work and renewals and the low rents received for many houses have caused landlords to be reluctant to carry out any but the minimum of work.

(a) Statistics.

Number of new houses erected during the year	—	TOTAL	109
(i) By the Local Authority	.....	.....	80
(ii) By other Local Authorities	.....	.....	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons	29
<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: auto;"/>			
Total number of Council Houses	(a) Before 1945	300
" " " "	(b) After 1945	514
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			Total 814
 1. <i>Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year—</i>			
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	976
b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	1621

(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	221
2.	<i>Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices—</i>						
		Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	.....	.....	.....	.....	127
3.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year—</i>						
	A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.						
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
		(a) By owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
	B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :						
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :					
		(a) By owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
	C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—						
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
	(3)	Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section II. and still in force	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

D. --Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil.
<i>Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act, 1953.</i>					
Closing Orders made under Section 10 (1)	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

SECTION 5.

S C H O O L S .

The Urban District is provided with fourteen schools. These include one Grammar School, one Secondary Modern School, ten Primary Schools, one Nursery School, and one Private School.

With the exception of the latter, all the schools are in Division 11 of the Lancashire County Council Divisional Administration Scheme. 1944.

LIST OF SCHOOLS IN THE ORMSKIRK URBAN DISTRICT

School	No. of Children on Roll Total on 1st Jan., 1954. C'dren		
	Boys	Girls.	
Burscough St. John's C.E. (Mxd. & Infts'.Depts.)	136	143	279
Burscough Methodist	134	136	270
Burscough R.C.	58	55	113
Lathom Park C.E.	13	7	20
Newburgh C.E.	68	68	136
Lathom St. James' C.E.	43	58	101
Burscough Lordsgate Township C.E.	102	89	191
Ormskirk C.E. (Junior mixed)	275	225	500
(Infants)	188	163	351
Ormskirk St. Anne's R.C. (Mxd. & Infts, Depts)	184	149	333
Ormskirk Secondary Modern School (Boy's and Girls Depts.)	247	248	495
Ormskirk Grammar School	340	433	773
Ormskirk Moorgate Nursery School	21	19	40
Ormskirk High School	43	172	215
Totals :—	1,852	1,965	3,817

TABLE SHOWING THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF EACH SCHOOL IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

School	Washing Accommodation.	Water Supply	Cloakroom	Closet Accommodation.	Feet from School	Drainage.
St. John's (Senior) C.E.	4 basin girls, 3 boys	Public Main	Separate	6 W.C.'s. girls, 4 W.C.'s boys.	18	Public Sewer
St. John's (Junior) C.E.	2 basins, 1 sink	"	One only	3 W.C.'s used in common.	18	"
Burscough Bridge Meth.	3 basins girls, 2 boys, 3 infants	"	Separate	4 W.C.'s. girls, 4 boys, 4 infants	40	"
St. John's R.C.	4 basins for communal use 2 basins for communal use	"	One only	5 W.C.'s girls, 5 boys	0	"
Lathom Park C.E.	One sink for girls and infants only	"	One only	2 Pail closets girls, 2 boys	60	Open brook
Newburgh C.E.	One sink girls, 1 sink boys	"	Separate	4 Pail closets girls and infants, 2 boys	18	Road Drain
Lathom St. James' C.E.	6 basins girls, 4 boys	"	Separate	6 Trough closets girls, 3 boys	60	Public Sewer
Lordsgate Township	20 basins girls 20 basins boys	"	Separate	4 W.C.'s. girls, 3 boys	Inside	"
Ormskirk C.E. Jun. Mixed	20 basins girls 20 basins boys	"	Separate	20 W.C.'s. girls 20 W.C.'s boys	Inside	"
Ormskirk C.E. Infants	4 basins in passage (Communal)	"	Separate	19 W.C.'s. girls 12 W.C.'s. boys	Inside	"
St. Anne's R.C.	13 basins girls, 13 boys	"	Separate	5 Trough closets Infants and girls, 3 Trough closets boys	5 24	" " "
Wigan Rd. Secondary		"	Separate	14 W.C.'s. girls, 5 boys	Inside	"

ORMSKIRK SCHOOL CLINIC AND CHILD WELFARE
CENTRE, GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Each Monday.

a.m. Minor Ailments	Dr. Wilson.	Nurse Lloyd.
p.m. Child Welfare Centre.	Dr. Wilson.	Nurse Lloyd.

First Monday in Month only.

a.m. Orthopædic Consultant Clinic.	Mr. Osborne.	Nurse Browne
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Each Tuesday.

a.m. Orthopædic Treatment and p.m. Clinic.	Nurse Browne.
---	---------------

Each Wednesday.

p.m. Re-dressings.	Nurse Lloyd.
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Each Friday.

a.m. Dental Clinic. and p.m.	Mr. Ashman.
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Each Friday.

a.m. Ante-Natal Clinic.	Dr. Mayeur and Dr. Hailwood.
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BURSCOUGH CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (OLD COUNCIL
OFFICES).

Each Thursday.

p.m. Child Welfare Clinic.	† Dr. Wilson.	Nurse Rigby.
	† Dr. Wilson attends alternate Thursdays.	

IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

The Clinic. Ormskirk General Hospital.	Every fourth Thursday. a.m.	Dr. C. R. Wilson and Nurse Lloyd.
Burscough Council Offices.	1st Monday in month, p.m.	Dr. C. R. Wilson. and Nurse Rigby.

VACCINATION CLINIC.

The Clinic. Ormskirk Gen. Hospital.	Each Monday p.m. in conjunction with Child Welfare Clinic.	Dr. Wilson and Nurse Lloyd.
Burscough Council Offices.	First Monday in the month p.m. in conjunc- tion with Immunisation Clinic.	Dr. C. R. Wilson and Nurse Rigby.

SECTION 6

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

SAMPLES OF MILK FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Thirty-nine samples of milk were taken and submitted for various bacteriological tests, with the following results:—

Phosphatase Test	.....	.....	16	satisfactory	
Methylene Blue					
Reduction Test	.....	24	„	3	unsatisfactory.
Turbidity test	.....	5	„		
Inoculation test for T.B.	.....	8			negative.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949 : MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949 : MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949.

These Regulations require the registration by the local authority of persons carrying on the trade of distributors of milk from premises within their area, and of premises within their district, not being dairy farms, which are used as dairies.

The Special Designation Regulations provide for the issue of yearly licences by the local authority authorising the use of Special Designations (Tuberculin Tested ; Accredited ; Pasteurised ; Sterilised) in relation to milk sold in their area.

The number of registrations granted and licences issued is as follows:—

Registrations.		Licences in relation to			
Dairies.	Distributors.	T.T. Milk	Pasteur- ised Milk	Sterilised Milk	Accredited Milk
6	24	19	23	30	—

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT, 1951.

Section 14 of this Act, which is administered by the Council requires, under certain circumstances, the registration of hawkers of food and premises used for the storage of such food. At the end of 1953 the number of registrations was 40.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938—SECTION 14.

This section of the Food and Drugs Act requires the registration of premises used for :—

- (a) the sale, or the manufacture for the purposes of sale, of ice cream, or the storage of ice cream intended for sale, or
- (b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. (For the purposes of this subsection, the preparation of meat or fish by any process of cooking shall be deemed to be the preservation thereof).

At the end of 1953 the number of registrations was : (a) 55.
(b) 22.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (Section 15) BYELAWS.

Byelaws for securing the observance of Sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air were adopted by the Council and confirmed by the Minister of Food. These Byelaws became operative on the 16th July, 1951.

FOOD PREPARATION PREMISES, RESTAURANT KITCHENS, ETC.

These premises have been periodically visited to ensure that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness is maintained and at several premises improvements have been effected.

ICE CREAM.

There are now only three premises within the Urban District at which ice cream is manufactured. In each case equipment is installed to produce ice cream in accordance with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, and the premises are satisfactory. There are 55 premises registered for the sale of ice cream, most of which is unpacked in wrappers or cartons.

During the year 23 samples of ice cream were obtained and submitted for methylene blue reduction test. All the samples were placed in Grades 1 and 2.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There is only one licensed slaughter house in the district and this is licensed for the slaughter of pigs only.

During the year 1620 pigs were inspected.

The following Table gives a summary of the meat and other foods condemned during the year :—

CARCASSES OF PIGS.

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.	Weight.		
	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Whole carcase condemned	2	2	1 3
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	51	1	— 27
% of total number inspected affected with other diseases	3.27		
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.			
Whole carcase condemned	1	1	1 22
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	16	2	— 21
% of total number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.05		
	7 — 17		

OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED.

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
42 cans of Meat	2	1	6
31 „ Meat Paste	—	—	21
19 „ Vegetables	—	—	19
62 „ Soup	1	1	8
57 „ Milk	—	3	4
364 „ Fruit	5	2	16
27 „ Fish	—	—	7
19 „ Jam	—	—	24
	10 2 21		

(c) ADULTERATION.

The section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, dealing with adulteration is administered by the Lancashire County Council, and I am indebted to Doctor Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following information :—

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1953.

A total of 110 samples was obtained ; of these 59 were of milk (this total includes 7 Channel Islands milks) and the 51 others comprised :—

2 beef sausage	1 cornflour, flavoured
2 margarine	1 Yorkshire pudding mixture
1 golden raising powder	1 cream of tartar
2 baking powder	1 dried parsley
2 sodium bicarbonate	1 mustard compound
1 borax	1 French mustard, liquid
1 oatmeal	1 compound syrup of figs
1 cornflour	2 coffee and chicory essence,
1 table salt	liquid
1 saccharin tablets	1 crab paste, canned
1 lomon curd	1 butter
2 jam	1 pork sausage
1 marmalade	3 self raising flour
1 rice	2 shredded suet
1 breakfast oats	1 sultanas
1 national flour	1 raisins
1 ice lollies	1 currants
2 custard powder	1 ground almonds
1 blancmange powder	2 mincemeat
1 rice pudding mixture	2 whisky

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :—

SAMPLE	RESULT OF ANALYSIS	ACTION TAKEN
1 formal Channel Island milk	Fat content only 3.8%	Ministry of Food notified.
1 formal Channel Island milk	Fat content only 3.85%	Ministry of Food notified.
1 mincemeat	Fat content 2.2% Minimum standard 2.5%	Packers communi- cated with
1 formal whisky	36.4° under proof. Contained 2.1% excess water	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained

ORMSKIRK MARKET.

The Ormskirk Market is an ancient institution dating from April 28th, 1286, when King Edward the First granted " a Thursday market and a five days' fair " to the town for ever. The rights in the Market appear to have been vested in the Earl of Lancaster, for on the 29th September, 1286, those rights were transferred by the Charter of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, to the Prior of Burscough Abbey on the payment of an annual sum. The alienation of these Market rights is confirmed by the Charter of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, in 1339.

The rights remained vested in the Priory until the Dissolution of the Monasteries about 1536, and after its surrender to King Henry VIII. by Robert Barton, the last prior (who died in 1553). the Priory was granted to Sir William Paget, K.G., Principal Secretary of State in 1547.

A little over a century later (on the 23rd June, 1670) King Charles II. granted to Charles, the Eighth Earl of Derby, and his successors, the right to hold and keep two fairs, one in Whitsun week and the other at the end of August in each year, and a market to be held on Thursdays.

By a conveyance dated the 30th day of September, 1876, the Rights in the Market were sold by the Earl of Derby to the Ormskirk Local Board for £1,000.

The Ormskirk Local Board made Byelaws, which were allowed by the Local Government Board on the 17th December, 1881, whereby a market was to be held on Thursday and Saturday of each week throughout the year, which were amended to provide that a market was to be held on each week day throughout the year " unless the same shall be a day duly appointed for solemn fast or public thanksgiving."

Consequent upon the amalgamation Order of 1931 whereby Ormskirk Urban District was amalgamated with the Urban District of Lathom and Burscough the byelaws lapsed and new byelaws were made on the 19th December, 1935. These included *inter alia*, the fixing of the days and hours during each day on which the market shall be held. Regulations as to the use of the market place and the buildings, stalls, pens and standings therein, and for preventing nuisances or obstructions therein, or in the immediate approaches thereto. Penalties for offences against the byelaws. A table of Tolls leviable in the market was incorporated.

The market continued to be held throughout the war years, although on a limited scale. It has now regained much of its colourfulness, and each Thursday Moor Street, Moorgate and Aughton Street are filled with market stalls and itinerant tradesmen of all kinds. The Saturday market is limited to Moor Street except for an occasional two or three stalls in Aughton Street, but nevertheless there is much trading, especially in home produce.

It is the practice of the Health Department to make regular inspections of all the market stalls and the Sanitary Inspectors pay particular attention to those stalls selling foodstuffs each market day.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	94	73	—	—
(iii) Other premises which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	1	1	—	—
	99	75	—	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspectors.	Referred By H.M. Inspectors.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1).	7	7	-	2	-
Overcrowding (S.2).	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).	1	1	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	6	6	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).					
Total	14	14	-	4	-

OUTWORKERS :

There were 7 outworkers engaged in the manufacture of stuffed toys notified in the August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) of the Factories Act. The out-workers premises within the Urban District were visited and found to be satisfactory.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

At the end of 1953 filling materials were being used at 7 registered premises.

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS
DURING THE YEAR 1952.

Visits to dwelling houses (Public Health Act and Housing									
Acts)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1684
„ re Water Supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
„ „ Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
„ „ Refuse Collection and disposal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	92
„ „ Rodent Control	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	53
„ to Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
„ „ Shops (Shops Act)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
„ „ Factories and Outworker's Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	84
„ „ Slaughterhouse	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	165
„ „ Butchers and Grocers premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83
„ „ Fried Fish Shops and fishmongers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
„ „ Greengrocers and fruiterers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
„ „ Cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
„ „ Ice Cream Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
„ „ Cafes and Restaurants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71
„ „ Street Vendors and Hawkers carts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
„ „ Market	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	207
„ in connection with Milk Sampling	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
„ „ „ „ Water Sampling	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
„ „ „ „ Food and Drugs Sampling	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
„ „ „ „ Ice Cream Sampling	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Miscellaneous Visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	189

SALVAGE.

WASTE PAPER.—During the year a total weight of 192 tons 3 cwts. 3 qrs. of waste paper was collected and baled. This waste paper realised a sum of £1288.

SECTION 7.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified to the Health Department during the year was 706. This figure is considerably higher than the number of notifications for 1952, when 249 cases were notified. This increase is accounted for by an increase in the number of notified cases of measles and whooping cough. There were 458 cases of measles and 159 cases of whooping cough compared with 116 measles and 56 whooping cough in 1952.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been continued during the year with satisfactory results. A total of 358 children completed a course of Immunisation, of whom 177 were below the age of two, the most important time for primary immunisation.

The following table shows the number of children in the Ormskirk Urban District who have now completed a course of Immunisation :—

	Under 5	5—15	Total
Total population in Age Group	1579	2892	4471
Total No. Immunised	1088	2599	3687
Percentage	68.9	89.9	82.5

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of persons, in age groups, completely immunised.

Age	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	1	2	—	17	58	29	161	163	153	154	105	
1 year	2	1	—	—	1	2	101	84	65	89	133	136	103	234	89	63	72	73	72	
2 years	6	1	—	1	2	14	101	99	18	11	31	39	10	25	10	13	8	12	22	
3 "	3	2	1	—	4	11	75	83	12	10	19	29	13	12	14	3	8	4	8	
4 "	8	1	—	1	1	11	98	78	20	17	14	24	11	13	3	5	9	4	18	
5 "	7	—	2	1	—	21	242	96	22	16	41	29	20	7	5	21	4	4	29	
6 "	13	1	—	1	1	19	150	91	15	10	17	16	16	10	4	23	3	1	24	
7 "	7	—	—	—	4	13	161	60	9	12	33	7	7	6	4	25	3	2	26	
8 "	4	1	1	1	—	27	201	75	8	10	31	9	13	4	—	12	3	1	9	
9 "	4	1	—	1	—	15	196	67	8	7	21	2	3	1	1	12	1	—	5	
10 "	3	3	1	1	—	29	200	76	11	13	19	3	1	3	2	10	4	—	15	
11 "	3	2	1	1	1	8	229	73	4	14	12	2	2	3	—	10	2	—	7	
12 "	3	—	—	—	—	5	207	59	2	9	29	—	4	1	1	13	—	—	5	
13 "	—	—	—	—	—	1	198	42	7	3	21	2	6	2	—	8	2	—	9	
14 "	1	2	—	—	—	2	42	19	1	1	5	—	1	2	—	9	1	—	1	
15 "	2	—	—	—	—	—	12	20	5	1	—	—	4	1	1	6	—	—	3	
Total under 5 years at end of 1953	66	15	6	8	14	178	2220	1028	208	225	426	315	272	353	295	396	273	255	358	
Total 5—9 years at end of 1953																				1088
Total 10—15 years at end of 1953																				112
Total over 15 years at end of 1953																				1457
Total over 15 years at end of 1953																				3224
Total over 15 years at end of 1953																				6911

Total number of children who were given reinforcing injections — 1020

Total number of children under 15 who have been immunised — 3687

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR 1953

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.										Total Deaths
	Total Cases at all Ages	YEARS									
		0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 & over	
Scarlet Fever	56	-	1	9	40	4	2	-	-	-	—
Measles	458	11	98	136	205	5	1	2	-	-	—
Whooping Cough ...	159	8	29	44	71	1	2	4	-	-	—
Pneumonia	15	-	-	3	2	-	2	1	4	3	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	10	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	-	-	—
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	—
Erysipelas	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	706	19	129	193	319	10	12	14	7	3	6

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER AND NATURE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
 COMING UNDER THE NOTICE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH DURING 1953

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	11	6	8	1	7	2	8		1	9	2	1	56
Acute Poliomyelitis										1	1	1	3
Pneumonia	2	2			1	3	1				3	3	15
Measles	14	24	20	31	64	135	55	12	6	44	49	4	458
Whooping Cough	2	3	1	1			1		12	27	85	27	159
Puerperal Pyrexia		1	1	1	3		1			1		2	10
Dysentery				1									1
Erysipelas	2						1					1	4
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)		3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	2	23
Monthly Totals	31	39	32	37	77	142	69	14	21	83	143	41	729

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1953

	WARDS.											Totals			
	Aughton 1	Aughton 2	B'cough North	B'cough South 1	B'cough South 2	B'cough South 3	Derby	Knowr- ley	Lathom 1	Lathom 2	S'brick 2	W'head 1	W'head 2		
Scarlet Fever ...	-	3	12	10	6	6	3	5	1	6	3	1	-	-	56
Whooping Cough ...	7	23	3	43	2	-	30	18	2	2	25	-	4	159	
Measles ...	3	23	61	59	101	18	14	20	40	38	32	16	33	458	
Pneumonia ...	3	2	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	1	-	1	15	
Dysentery ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	1	1	10*	
Erysipelas ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	4	
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	
	14	52	76	112	110	24	51	53	43	46	62	18	40	706	

* 7 of these cases were notified from the County Hospital, Wigan Road.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1953.

Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—								
1—								
2—								
5—								
10—								
15—	1	1						
20—		2						
25—	1	5						
35—	2	5						
45—	2	1						
55—	2							
65—	1				2	1		
75 and upwards								
Totals	9	14	—	—	2	1	—	—
	23		—		3		—	

TABLE SHOWING INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS DURING
PAST 20 YEARS

Disease	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
Scarlet Fever	56	15	14	20	14	27	41	43	34	50	89	29	24	28	40	29	30	175	27	36
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	6	15	20	35	41	62	37	24	6	12	29	40	12
*Measles	458	116	210	175	75	395	158	6	291	26	279	9	18	48	—	—	—	—	—	—
* Whooping Cough	159	56	118	65	53	35	17	—	—	5	11	9	27	10	1	—	—	—	—	—
Para Typhoid Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	6	1	1	—	1	3	2	—	2
Pneumonia	15	18	15	13	18	22	8	14	32	20	46	19	34	35	21	29	30	31	23	46
Erysipelas	4	3	2	1	—	1	1	3	4	1	2	8	12	7	9	2	4	7	7	7
Dysentery	1	23	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	17	15	15	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	3	2	6	1	3	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	1	3	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	23	21	25	15	12	12	13	10	12	10	20	13	18	12	11	12	10	15	16	7
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	—	5	2	2	2	6	4	8	4	8	6	6	13	3	3	3	6	8	2	7
	729	275	406	311	175	503	251	92	397	144	492	145	217	189	114	88	97	272	122	120

*Measles and Whooping Cough were not notifiable prior to 1939.

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